

FIREARMS IN THE CLASSROOM

This governed by who owns the space in which the class is being presented. Gun owners with the proper permits are entitled to carry guns in public areas, but there's no law that limits a private entity (other than a tavern) from restricting firearm possession on their own premises.

If a DD school rents privately-owned space for a class, e.g., a conference room in a hotel or office complex or shopping center, then the school can prohibit students from bringing guns into the class to the same extent as the actual owner of the premises could do.

On the other hand, if the school rents space in a public building, then the school will need to abide by the statutory restrictions on prohibiting possession of a weapon in a "public establishment," defined in section 13-3102(L)(2) as a "structure vehicle or craft that is owned, leased or operated by this state or a political subdivision of this state." Under ARS section 13-3102.01, the operator of a public establishment must offer lockers for temporary storage of the firearm if they want to keep people from bringing weapons into the building.

However, if the DD school is renting space in a public or private school building, there is a specific prohibition against possession on school grounds in ARS section 13-3102(A)(12) that the school can avail itself of.

If the DD school holds classes in a building the school owns itself, I think for purposes of title 13, the school is a private entity, not subject to the storage locker requirements of section 13-3102.01. Jerry Landau may have a better handle on how that issue might be resolved, and I am copying him in case he has time to provide his input.

It's not a crime to carry a properly-permitted firearm into a DD school classroom, but that doesn't mean the school can't ask someone to leave the weapon at home or in their car.